

News Release



Frederick County Bureau of Investigation
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE 11/20/2013 MURDER/SUICIDE INVESTIGATION

The Frederick County Bureau of Investigation continues to investigate what appears to be a murder suicide that occurred on 11/20/2013 in the 6800 Blk of Woods Court in the Pinehurst development of Lake Linganore. The victims have been identified and family notifications have been completed. The victims have been identified as:

1. Benyam Asefa, male, age 40
2. Barbara Giomarelli, female, age, 42
3. Samuel Asefa, male, 3-months old (Office is still working to confirm the proper spelling of Samuel)

The 5- year old female continues to be in the care of Child Protective Services. Additional information will be released after investigators have an opportunity to speak with the victims' family members. They are expected to arrive to the area late tomorrow afternoon. FCBI investigators plan to attend the autopsies, which will occur today. Anyone with information about the case is asked to call Cpl. Dave DeWees at 301-600-3677.

INITIAL PRESS RELEASE 11/20/2013

On November 20, 2013, at 8:15 pm, the Frederick County Emergency Communications Center received a 911 call from the 6800 Blk of Woods Court in the Pinehurst development of Lake Linganore in New Market, MD and reported that a 5 yr old female neighbor had come to their home and reported to them that her mother, father, and brother were injured inside her home. Frederick County Sheriff's Office Deputies, Maryland State Police, and Fire and Rescue units from the Department of Fire and Rescue were dispatched to the location. Deputies quickly obtained information from the 5 yr old and neighbor that indicated the need to enter the home quickly because individuals were believed injured in the home and needed assistance.

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Deputies entered the home and discovered two adults (one adult male age 40 and one adult female age 42) and a male infant (less than one year old) deceased and all three appeared to have injuries consistent with gunshot wounds however that will have to be confirmed through an autopsy. A handgun was found at the scene. All of the deceased are believed to be family members as is the 5 year old that alerted the neighbor. The 5yr old was not harmed and was checked by EMS on the scene. Frederick County Child Protective Services has been called to the scene and is currently handling custody of the 5 yr old.

Representatives of the Office of the State Medical Examiner's Office are on scene and all three bodies will be transported to the Medical Examiner's Office in Baltimore where autopsies will be performed most likely on November 21, 2013. Cause and Manner of Death will then be officially determined.

We are early in the investigation, but preliminary information indicates the event is most likely a murder/suicide. Identities of the deceased will not be made available until next of kin have been notified. The Sheriff's Office anticipates being at the scene for several hours as the investigation moves forward. A follow up press release most likely will not occur until sometime during the day Thursday, November 21, 2013.

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